

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 11. (Cancelled).

12. (currently amended) A method of forming cells of the T cell lineage comprising culturing stem cells or progenitor cells that are capable of differentiating into cells of the T cell lineage with an ~~in vitro system of claim 4~~ a cell preparation comprising OP9 stromal cells that have been modified to express a Notch ligand that supports T cell lymphopoiesis but does not support B cell lymphopoiesis of stem cells or progenitor cells wherein the Notch ligand is Delta-like-1 or Delta-like-4 to form T cells of one or more of the following lineages:

- (a) TCR- $\alpha\beta$ ⁺ CD4⁺CD8⁺ T cells; and/or
- (b) TCR- $\gamma\delta$ ⁺ T cells.

13. (original) A method according to claim 12 wherein the cells that are capable of differentiating into cells of the T lineage are selected from hematopoietic progenitor cells, hematopoietic stem cells and embryonic stem cells.

14. – 16. (cancelled).

17. (previously amended) A method of claim 12 wherein the formed cells are formulated in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, auxiliary or excipient.

18. – 21. (cancelled).

22. (currently amended) A method for expanding cells of the T cell lineage comprising:

(a) culturing stem cells or progenitor cells capable of differentiating into cells of the T cell lineage with an ~~in-vitro system comprising~~ a cell preparation comprising OP9 stromal cells that have been modified to express a Notch ligand that supports T cell lymphopoiesis but does not support B cell lymphopoiesis of stem cells or progenitor cells, wherein the Notch ligand is Delta-like-1 or Delta-like-4 and wherein the T cells produced comprise T cells of one or more of the following lineages:

- (i) CD4⁻ CD8⁻ CD25⁺ CD44⁺ double negative T cells;
- (ii) CD4⁻ CD8⁻ CD25⁺ CD44⁻ double negative T cells;
- (ii) CD4⁺ CD8⁺ double positive T cells;
- (iii) TCR- $\alpha\beta$ ⁺ CD4⁻CD8⁺ T cells; and/or
- (iv) TCR- $\gamma\delta$ ⁺ T cells; and

(b) isolating increased numbers of the T cell lineage, wherein the number of cells is increased by at least about 10 to 15 fold.

23. – 49. (cancelled).

50. (New) A method as claimed in claim 12 wherein the OP9 cells comprise a Delta-like-1 nucleic acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:8 or SEQ ID NO:9.

51. (New) A method as claimed in claim 12 wherein the OP9 cells comprise a Delta-like-4 nucleic acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:10 or SEQ ID NO:11.

52. (New) A method as claimed in claim 22 wherein the OP9 cells comprise a Delta-like-1 nucleic acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:8 or SEQ ID NO:9.

53. (New) A method as claimed in claim 22 wherein the OP9 cells comprise a Delta-like-4 nucleic acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:10 or SEQ ID NO:11.